

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Editor - - SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 41.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1916.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer,
Dr. Tchaykovsky, Lingham House,
Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec.,
Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford
Road, Bow, E.
All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road,
Bow, E.

ELF.S. FIXTURES

Sunday, Jan. 2nd.
Hyde Park, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier
and others.

Rathbone Street, 11.30 a.m., Miss
Manicom.

Osborne St., 11.30 a.m., Miss Lynch.

Monday, Jan. 3rd.

"Whitehouse," 4.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Follett St., 6 p.m., Mrs. Drake, Miss
Manicom.

175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Miss
Lynch, Miss Beamish.

Tuesday, Jan. 4th.

Whitecross Street, 1.30 p.m., Mrs.
Bouvier.

Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Mr.
Sorensen, Mrs. Drake.

Bow Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss
Lynch, Mrs. Bouvier.

Wednesday, Jan. 5th.

Chrip St., 6 p.m., Miss Manicom,
Mrs. Drake.

53 St. Leonard St., 3.30 p.m., Miss
Rickard.

Thursday, Jan. 6th.

175 Dalston Lane, 8 p.m., Mr.
Sorensen, Miss Beamish.

55 Fife Road, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier,
Mrs. Parsons.

Bow Baths, Roman Road, 4-7 p.m.,
Children's New Year's Party.

Friday, Jan. 7th.

Beckton Rd., 4.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Piggott St., 4.30 p.m., Miss Manicom.

Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs.
Bouvier, Mrs. Drake.

Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., "Par-
liament."

Saturday, Jan. 8th.

Morning Lane & Well St., 11 a.m.,
Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Beamish.

Near Holborn Town Hall, 1.30 p.m.,
Mrs. Leigh Rothwell.

Vernon Rd., 3 p.m., Mrs. Boyce, Miss
Lynch.

Bow Baths, Roman Road, 7-12 p.m.,
New Year's Party.

Sunday, Jan. 9th.

Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Miss Manicom.

Poplar Women's Hall, 7.30 p.m., Miss
Georgina Brackenbury, Miss Sylvia
Pankhurst. Chair: Mrs. Drake.

MOTHERS AND BABIES.

The calls on our four mother and
baby centres, for milk, eggs, medicines,
and doctoring and nursing care, are
still very urgent. Will you help by
sending us some money for this work?

Will you send us new laid eggs,
arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?

We want:—For baby, four gowns, four
barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins,
three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother,
two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three
towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

Mothers and Children should
make a point of attending the
weekly consultations with nurse
and doctor at:—

400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, Mondays
2.30 p.m.; 20 Railway St., Poplar, Tues-
days 3 p.m.; 53 St. Leonard's St.,
Wednesdays 4.15 p.m.; 55 Fife Rd.,
Canning Town, Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.

To reach Old Ford Road take an
Old Ford bus (No. 8), which goes
via the Marble Arch, Oxford St.,
the Bank and Liverpool St., or
back to Old Ford Station on the
North London Railway.

On Christmas Eve, the Labour members
of the Glasgow City Council again protested
against the refusal of the City Hall for
anti-conscription meetings, and eleven of
them were suspended.

Wanted.—Cook Superintendent for a Cost-
Price Restaurant, near Cardiff.—Apply
"Box 100," WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT.

CONSCRIPTION.

At the moment of writing it is
rumoured that the House of Lords
will endeavour to force the Govern-
ment to adopt conscription by
threatening to throw out the Regis-
tration Bill, and so forcing a General
Election. This shows for the thou-
sandth time the wisdom of the old
Radical and Chartist cry:—"Down
with the Lords."

The Liberal and Labour adherents
of voluntary service, still hold, we
believe, a Parliamentary majority,
and therefore, if they care enough to
do so they are in a position to force
the Government not to give way to
the Lords. But the majority of the
Liberals are weak-kneed and re-
actionary, and cannot be depended
on to take a stand on any question
of principle.

Unfortunately we can hope for
little more from many of the Labour
members.

If help comes it must come from
the rank and file of the Labour
movement, in those industries which
are vitally necessary to the country
at the present time—the miners, the
engineers, the dockers, the railway-
men, these by the "down tools"
threat can protect their weaker
brothers if they will.

We women whom conscription
cannot touch, but who love liberty
and hate coercion, believing that the
conscientious beliefs of men and
women should be held sacred, that
War is an inhuman wrong, and that
it is better to offer oneself to a
violent death than to kill another
human being. We must oppose con-
scription with all our force. We
must take our stand by the young
men.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

LYDD GEORGE AGAIN!

Mr. Lloyd George made a tour of
the Clydeside munition works, and
on Christmas Day addressed 3,000
munition trade union officials, and
shop stewards from various engineer-
ing shops and ship-building yards.

He was interrupted at the start by
the singing of the "Red Flag."

The Minister of Munitions again
pleaded to the men to forego their
trade union rules and customs, and
sanction a "dilution" of skilled labour
on an extensive scale. He urged
that a refusal on their part to consent
would prolong the war.

Trade unionists have already given
up most of their safeguards; when is
Mr. Lloyd George going to fulfil his
part of the bargain by seeing to it
that the new-comers receive the
same rates of pay as the workers
whom they replace?

Government pledges in this respect
are being flagrantly ignored!

It appears that Mr. Lloyd George's
request simply is that no one shall
object when he fails to keep his
promises, and that the workers shall
meekly submit to more coercion.

THE LATEST!

Issued by the Law Officers of the
Crown:—

"The payment by a union of strike pay to
persons who by striking are committing an
offence against Section 2 of the Munitions
of War Act, 1915, would, in our opinion,
amount either to a misdemeanour, or at all
events to an *ultra vires* act. An action
would, therefore, lie at the suit of the
Attorney-General against the trustees of the
union and (or) the union itself for an
injunction to restrain them from so applying
any funds of the union."

This notice should lead to trouble
if trade unionists are alive to the
dangers before the workers.

It is announced that no public hall belong-
ing to the Manchester Corporation will be
let for meetings in connection with the
Union of Democratic Control, the Indepen-
dent Labour Party, the No-Conscription
Fellowship, and the Fellowship of Recon-
ciliation.

THE ASQUITH "PLEDGE."

Full Cabinet meetings were held on
Monday and Tuesday. The Derby
scheme and Mr. Asquith's "pledge,"
not to call on the married men till
the "unmarried" or "young men" not
engaged on necessary national work
had come forward, were discussed.

The majority of the Ministers are
said to have decided:—

(1) That the Prime Minister's pledge to
the married men is binding on the Govern-
ment as a whole, and not on Mr. Asquith
alone.

(2) That the pledge should be redeemed
at once.

(3) That the principle of compulsion should
be accepted.

(4) That the Prime Minister should make
an announcement to this effect immediately
on the reassembling of the House of
Commons on Tuesday next.

According to the *Daily Chronicle*
some 600,000 single men have not
attested—how many of these are
medically fit for service, or necessary
to carry on important industry is not
known.

If conscription is now to be intro-
duced, the public must be told why.
If the million men voted by Parlia-
ment last week are forthcoming,
compulsory measures are surely
without any justification!

Some members of the Cabinet—
Mr. Runciman, Mr. McKenna, and,
perhaps, Mr. A. Henderson—object
to compulsion. We know that trade
unionists have repeatedly passed
resolutions against conscription. The
Irish Party is agreed to oppose it, so,
too, is the majority of Labour repre-
sentatives. Men already serving in
the Army ought to be the strongest
opponents; for they must see that
they will be betrayed by the intro-
duction of conscription.

One cannot conscript a handful of
"young men"; the measure must of
necessity apply to the whole Army.
And are the soldiers of Great Britain
willing to submit to conscription now
with all its curtailments of liberty
and allowances?

Mr. Asquith, on November 2nd, in
the House of Commons, remarked
that, "he had no objection of any
sort or kind to compulsion—in time
of war"; but that it should not be
introduced without "general consent"
to avoid "disunity" in the nation.

Will the Government remember
this assertion, also that our much
boasted "voluntary" Army has always
been said to excel conscript armies;
because it is the "free gift of a free
people," before it jeopardises the
country for the sake of a "pledge,"
which is only one of many?—M.O.C.

NO-CONSCRIPTION CONFERENCE.

The following resolutions were
passed at the No-Conscription Con-
ference at Essex Hall, on December
18th, 1915:—

To place on record the meeting's deter-
mination to resist the imposition of any
form of conscription, either industrial or
military.

To condemn the action of a section of a
community who are endeavouring to take
advantage of the present crisis.

To record the meeting's belief that the
only object of the present agitation was the
 sinister one of placing in the hands of the
possessing class a weapon for arresting
the social and political emancipation of the
workers, especially in the direction of
restricting the right of combination.

In the event of any measure being sub-
mitted to Parliament for the purpose of
exactng compulsory service, this Conference
be immediately called together again.

The meeting, which was under the
auspices of the Poplar and Hackney
Trades' Councils, was presided over
by Mr. George Lansbury.

The E.L.F.S. was represented by
Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Bouvier, and Mrs.
Boyce.

GIVE THIS PAPER TO A FRIEND.

E.L.F.S. NEW YEAR PARTY

BOW BATHS, Roman Road,
Bow, January 8th, 7 to 12 p.m.

Splendid Concert.

Great Spring Pageant.

Dancing. : Tickets 3d. each.

Songs: Mrs. PERRY, Miss HELSBY,

Mr. ERIC CHAPPELLOW. : Piano:

Mme. LEVINSKAJA. Recitations: Mr.

JACK WILMOT, Miss EVA BOYDELL

(of the Merry Maids). Speakers:

SYLVIA PANKHURST, Dr. BARBARA

TCHAYKOVSKY, GEORGE LANSBURY.

Dance Music: Walthamstow Social-

ist Band.

APPLY EARLY FOR TICKETS

BRING ALL YOUR FRIENDS

— COME BY NO. 8 BUS. —

CHILDREN'S PARTIES.

BOW BATHS HALL,

Thursday, January 6th, 4 to 7 p.m.

POPLAR TOWN HALL,

Saturday, January 8th, 4 to 7 p.m.

CANNING TOWN,

Arrangements announced later.

Gifts of Sweets, Fruit, Cakes, etc.,
and offers of personal help, greatly
needed.

Boys and girls who have many
toys given to them at Christmas
should send some of them to Nurse
HARRIS, at 438 Old Ford Road, Bow,
for the East End Children.

HOW TO HELP.

DEAR FRIENDS,

While thanking you very much
for your generosity in the past year,
I write to appeal to you once more
for funds to carry on the work of
the Federation. In the report of
the year in this issue you will see an
account of our work for Suffrage,
and you will realise that this work
cannot continue without more money
being raised for it. Of course, a
great deal that we do brings results
which cannot be put down in black
and white, but which exist none the
less, and we are anxious to increase
them.

The cost of bringing out the
DREADNOUGHT alone is very great,
so if you value our Paper and are
anxious to make it more widely
known, as we are, I am sure you
will do what you can to help us.

Those who are most interested in
our work amongst the mothers and
babies must realise that this cannot
be carried on efficiently without im-
provements in social conditions,
wages, and so on, which cannot be
secured without political agitation,
and the Vote; so we appeal to them
for help in our propaganda work.

Among the best ways to assist us
are:—Sending money, collecting and
getting others to collect for us, giving
entertainments and at-homes on our
behalf, getting new subscribers to
the DREADNOUGHT (either direct from
us or through the newsagents), selling
the DREADNOUGHT in the streets and
at meetings, and coming down to
help us at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow,
or at one of our other centres.

We are much in need of another
typewriter; if any of you can give
us one, or collect the money for one,
we shall be most grateful.

What will you do to lighten the
strain of raising funds, which falls so
heavily on the officers and committee
of the Federation?

Yours sincerely,

NORAH L. SMYTH,

Hon. Financial Secretary.

LEAGUE OF RIGHTS

For Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives.

Full particulars from 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

The Woman's Dreadnought.

REVISED ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

	£	s.	d.
Per inch ...	0	5	0
Per column ...	2	0	0
Per half-column ...	1	2	6
Per page ...	7	10	0
Per half-page ...	4	0	0

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All communications should be sent to the—

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER,
400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

The Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes,
400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
Telephone EAST 1787.

AGENTS:
INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 5 Duke Street, Chelsea, W.C.; CITY AND SUBURBAN PUBLISHING CO., 51, Finsbury Avenue, E.C.; Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL & Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.; MARLBOROUGH, 51 Old Bailey, E.C.; A. RITCHIE, Pemberton Row, South Square, E.C.; A. RAGGETT, Clerk Street, Stepney, E.; JOHN HAYWARD, Manchester; THE WHOLESALE SOCIETY, 10 Johnson Street, Bolton.

Can be obtained at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons & Messrs. WILLING, & all Newsagents.
Annual Subscription: Post free, 6s. 6d.

Vol. II. No. 41—Sat., Jan. 1st, 1916.

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

GREETINGS FOR 1916.

To the members of the East London Federation of the Suffragettes this number of our Paper brings New Year Greetings from the officers and committee of the Federation. To other readers it carries the goodwill and good wishes of the Federation.

Below is a short record of our year's work. Our space only allows us to give a very brief summary of the manifold activities in which our Federation has been engaged.

Nineteen-hundred and fifteen has been a busy year for us, but in 1916 we must resolve to accomplish very much more.

We must seize every opportunity for forwarding the cause of our enfranchisement. We must remember always that the possession of the Vote will make easier every struggle that we have to make.

We must continue to keep the working woman's flag flying, and must strive harder than ever to sweep away social evils, and to replace them by good and just conditions.

We must make more members, more active workers, and more readers of our Paper. When organisations grow to a certain size they are liable to develop cliques, and the old members, forgetting to realise the need for perpetual growth, sometimes imagine that things must go on as they have always done. The E.L.F.S. must not allow itself to be handicapped in that way. We must be always ready to welcome new ideas and new methods. We must especially remember that our appeal should be to every woman. We must make every woman feel that the Federation needs her, and that there is work in the Federation for her to do. We must make every woman feel that the Federation is her friend, and that every woman in the Federation is ready to be her comrade if she will but join in working for the common good.

We must try to do our part whenever possible in knitting more closely the bonds of international solidarity amongst working women all over the world.

And now to the business of 1916!

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

OUR YEAR'S WORK.

During the past year the E.L.F.S. has taken its stand and played its part in all the great public questions that have been before the country. Each of the branches has held at least two indoor meetings weekly, and upwards of 700 public meetings have been held, including four meetings in Bow Baths, two in Canning Town Public Hall, a meeting and exhibition in the Caxton Hall, two in the Portman Rooms, and in Poplar Town Hall, Old Kent Road Baths, and joint meetings with others in the Caxton Hall, Highbury Hall, and West Hampstead Town Hall.

Our speakers have addressed a large number of outside Suffrage, Socialist, Trade Union, and Labour organisations in various parts of the country.

Three Trafalgar Square meetings have been held, one of which was organised by the E.L.F.S., and in two of which the E.L.F.S. co-operated with other organisations.

We also organised a big Woman's May Day Demonstration in Victoria Park.

Meetings have been held each Sunday afternoon, alternately, in Hyde Park and Victoria Park. Our meetings have been ably organised by Mrs. Bouvier and the staff. We have to thank most cordially the many outside speakers who have addressed our audiences.

In all these meetings the question of votes for women has held a foremost place, though even important public questions have been dealt with in their turn, for the Federation clearly realises that we need the vote as a weapon for remedying the abuses from which we suffer, and safeguarding and extending the liberties we possess. The policy of our Federation has been moulded at the general members' meetings which are held each month, and at the weekly branch meetings.

Protests Against Unequal Punishments and Restrictions.

At the close of 1914 attempts had been made by the military authorities and others to revive the State Regulation of Prostitution, which was abolished by the repeal of the C.D. Acts in 1886. The E.L.F.S. at once protested (as did other women's organisations) against the proposed grossly retrograde step. The matter was first raised by the Plymouth Watch Committee, which on Oct. 2nd, 1914, recommended the re-enactment of the C.D. Acts, in order to meet the "special circumstances of the time," presumably referring to the fact that vast numbers of men were being withdrawn from their homes and massed together in camps and other places for military training, whilst thousands of women were unemployed. The E.L.F.S. at once wrote to the Prime Minister to protest, and an article on Josephine Butler's life and work and the menace to what she had achieved appeared in THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT. Mr. Asquith and Mr. McKenna declared that the Government would do nothing to revive State Regulation, and it appeared that the matter had dropped. But on November 28th five women were brought before a Military Court in Cardiff, and sent to prison for 62 days for disobeying an order issued by Colonel East, Commander of the Severn Defences, prohibiting women whom the police might choose, from being out of doors between 7 p.m. and 8 a.m. The case was published on Sunday, December 29th, and on Tuesday, December 31st, a Deputation from the East London Federation of the Suffragettes waited on Mr. Cubitt, at the War Office, and protested strongly against what had been done.

Proposals to restrict the liberty of soldiers' and sailors' wives and mothers, and to place them under police supervision, also began to be made in the winter of 1914. In November, the War Office published a memorandum, headed "Cessation of Separation Allowances and of Allotments of Pay to the Unworthy,"

stating that allowances and allotments would be stopped in cases of misconduct, and that reports of misconduct coming from "(1) the soldier, (2) his commanding officer, (3) local committees, (4) other sources, would be investigated by the police." In December, a memorandum was issued from the Home Office, stating that the Army Council desired the aid of the police in regard to the cessation of allowances to the unworthy, and stating that the police must use "tactful action" in regulating the conduct of soldiers' wives deprived of the "guidance" of their husbands, and that the records of soldiers' dependants must be indexed at the local police station.

The E.L.F.S., by communications to Members of the Government, Members of Parliament, and the Press, and by public meetings and articles in the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT, insisted that police supervision for the soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives must not be tolerated, and that pensions and allowances must not be treated as charity, but must become the absolute property of the recipients.

Trafalgar Square Demonstration, January 24th, 1915.

On Sunday, January 24th, the E.L.F.S. co-operated with the Women's Freedom League, the United Suffragists, and the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage, in a Joint Demonstration on this question and that of State Regulation, and on the following day a Deputation from ourselves and the other societies mentioned was received at the War Office by Mr. Cubitt.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, on behalf of our Federation, made the following demands:—

(1) Special Army orders and restrictions against women must be withdrawn; the Military authorities to have no jurisdiction over the civil population. If, as is alleged, there is danger of the troops contracting venereal disease, the Military authorities must exercise a wiser supervision and higher moral influence over the men under their control.

(2) The Government must make itself responsible for finding work at a living wage for unemployed women, and prevent the sweating of those in work.

(3) Separation allowances and pensions to Naval and Military dependants must be paid as a right, not a charity, and must not be withdrawn for any cause.

(4) Soldiers' and sailors' dependants must have the protection open to other members of the community, of being tried by ordinary legal process for offences against the ordinary law only. They must not be placed under special supervision or restrictions.

(5) Separation allowances and pensions should be not less than £1 a week for an adult, and 5s. a week for a child.

(6) Separation allowances and pensions should rise with the rising cost of living, as at present their actual value is constantly being reduced.

(7) Votes for Women to be carried into law during the coming Session.

Formation of League of Rights for Soldiers' & Sailors' Wives & Relatives.

Realising that more than Tipperary Clubs and help from outside charitable sources, the soldiers' and sailors' wives and relatives need an organisation of their own to secure justice for them, the E.L.F.S. took the initiative in forming the League of Rights for Soldiers' and Sailors' on January 18th. The objects of this League are to secure for its members adequate separation allowances and pensions, an improvement in their conditions, and to act on their behalf in all cases of neglect and delay.

Nine branches of the League have now been formed, and it has branches scattered all over the country. The greater part of the central secretarial and organising work has been done by the E.L.F.S. officials. Public meetings in connection with the formation of branches of the League have been held in Canning Town Public Hall; East Ham Minor Town Hall; The Brotherhood Church, Southgate Road, N.E.; St. Stephen's Church Hall, Poplar; Knapp Road J.C.C. School; and St. Leonard's Road J.C.C. School, Bromley; The Co-operative Hall, Plumstead; William Morris Hall, Walthamstow; and in Bow; Nine Elms; etc. The branches of the League hold regular weekly meetings and social gatherings monthly, or occasionally.

Hundreds of cases of error and injustice have been dealt with in regard to failure by paymasters and others to comply with the rules already laid down, unjust assessment of mother's allowances and so on.

The League of Rights and the E.L.F.S. have advocated the payment of an adequate flat rate of £1 a week for dependent parents, and 5s. a week for little brothers and sisters, as well as for wives and children, and also other ameliorations, including compulsory payment of allowances to sailors' wives, as well as to soldiers' wives; the abolition of the rule by which soldiers' and sailors' dependants were punished by the stoppage of allowances, because the man at the front had committed a breach of discipline and by which relatives are still punished by stoppages of allotment—a very serious matter in the case of sailors' relatives, the naval allotment frequently being larger than the allowances.

When the Naval and Military Pensions Bill was introduced later, both E.L.F.S. and L.R.S.S. exercised a watchful criticism suggesting useful amendments to the Government and individual Members of Parliament. Special protest was made against the attempt, which has largely failed, to make the pensions dependent on private charity and the clause, which has unfortunately become part of the Act which gives power to the Statutory Committee, on the advice of local committees, to decide that a pension, grant or allowance to wife, widow or other dependant shall be forfeit. Efforts were made to secure representation for the League of Rights on the Statutory Committee, and though these failed it is hoped that the League will be represented on the Local Committees in those districts in which branches of the League have been formed.

When the House of Lords shelved the Military and Naval Pensions Bill, it was promised that the dependants should not suffer but that separation allowances should continue without intermission until arrangements for paying pensions were made. The League of Rights soon discovered that this promise was being broken and that 26 weeks after a son's death the allowance to a mother or father was being stopped. We vigorously called attention to this matter and eventually the allowances were re-started after much regrettable hardship had been caused.

High Prices of Food and Fuel.

At the outbreak of War, the E.L.F.S. was first in demanding that the Government should take control of the food and fuel supply, and a continuous agitation has been sustained by us against the exploitation of the people by the profiteers. We were received in deputation by Mr. Runciman at the Board of Trade on this subject in 1914. On Feb. 2nd, 1915, at the opening of the first Parliamentary Session, a deputation of the E.L.F.S. went to the Lobby of the House of Commons to interview Members of Parliament on this and other matters.

The E.L.F.S. was invited to take part in a joint Socialist and Labour procession and demonstration in Trafalgar Square on February 28th, demanding Government action to keep down the cost of living. Our Federation appointed Mrs. Drake, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and Mrs. Walker to speak as its representatives.

Fighting for the Wage Earner.

Throughout the year the E.L.F.S. has had frequent correspondence with the War Office in regard to the sweating of women employed on Army contracts, the Board of Trade to report the failure of employers to pay the Trade Board rates, and the Home Office in regard to unhealthy or dangerous factory conditions. A continuous propaganda against sweating has been carried on. The Federation has put numbers of workers, who have applied for help or advice, in touch with the unions connected with their trades, and has

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OUR YEAR'S WORK.

(Continued from page 394.)

aided in the formation and work of trade union branches from time to time. The Federation feels very strongly the need for further trade union activity amongst women everywhere, and especially in East London.

In the food price debate in February, 1915, Socialist members of Parliament urged that the Government should prevent the rise in the price of food and fuel. Mr. Runciman replied that the high price question could best be solved by a rise in wages, but within a week the Government issued, through the Press Bureau, a statement to the effect that strikes for higher wages must be prevented, and that disputes would be referred to compulsory arbitration by a tribunal composed of three Government officials. On March 9th Mr. Lloyd George introduced a third Defence of the Realm Act, the principal object of which was to give the Government greater power to regulate the manufacture of war material.

To the steady filching away of the people's rights which has continued during the war the E.L.F.S. has been constantly alive, and has striven continuously to arouse the people to resist the onward march of coercion.

Runciman's Call to Women for War Service.

In March, Mr. Runciman, President of the Board of Trade, issued an appeal to women to volunteer for war service, and to do the work of men going to the front. He asked that the women's organisations, trade union, suffrage, charitable, and so on, should come forward and help to induce women to fill up forms pledging themselves to undertake Government work.

Our Reply.

The E.L.F.S. at once wrote to Mr. Runciman, Mr. Asquith, and Mr. Lloyd George, demanding that every woman who might undertake a man's work should be insured a man's pay. Also that:—

(1) In view of the fact that the Government will at once become overwhelmingly the largest and perhaps eventually almost the sole employer of labour, with more extensive powers for controlling labour than any private employer has ever had, it is imperative that the Parliamentary vote should at once be extended to women, in order that they may have the same power that men have in influencing the Government which controls their labour. Otherwise the new industrial conscription will be an unjustifiable tyranny where women are concerned.

(2) That as the Government proposes that all labour disputes shall be referred to a tribunal nominated by the Government, women shall have strong representation on this tribunal, and in all disputes in regard to women's employment, a woman of standing and experience (the nation has many such to draw upon) shall be the chairman of the tribunal, or, in the case of the appointment of a sole arbiter be the arbiter of the dispute.

(3) That where a woman is employed on work hitherto done by men she shall receive the wage hitherto paid to men in addition to any war bonus or increase in wages which might have been paid for the work now in the case of men employees. That in no case shall an unskilled woman be employed at a lower wage than the current wage of a man unskilled labourer.

(4) That proper safeguards in regard to hours, wages, and conditions be arranged in conjunction with representatives of the women concerned, and that no woman shall be compelled to work under conditions which the representative of the organisation to which she belongs reports to be unsatisfactory.

The E.L.F.S. also issued through the Press an appeal to women's organisations to unite in making this demand, and a call for a joint conference of women's organisations and labour organisations. As a result of this a preliminary conference was called on March 22nd at the Trade Union Congress Offices on our initiative. At the request of this conference the Labour War Emergency Committee called a larger conference which took place in the Caxton Hall on April 16th.

The Treasury Agreement.

In the meantime, Mr. Lloyd George and other members of the Government met various trade union leaders at the Treasury, and entered into an agreement in regard to the relaxation of trade union rules and customs during the war, and the replacing of skilled workmen by semi-skilled men and women.

In this agreement the following sentences occur:—

"Where the custom of a shop is changed during the War by the introduction of semi-skilled men to perform work hitherto performed by a class of workmen of higher skill, the rate paid shall be the usual rates of the district for that class of work. A relaxation of existing demarcation restrictions or admission of semi-skilled or female labour shall not affect adversely the rates customarily paid for the job."

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst at once wrote on behalf of the Federation to Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Runciman, and Mr. Asquith, pointing out that:—

"The wording of the sentences is ambiguous. Does it mean that in the case of women, as is clearly stated in the case of semi-skilled men, that if they are employed to do work hitherto performed by workmen of higher skill, the rate paid shall be the usual rates of the district for that class of work? Or are we to understand that this provision made in the case of the semi-skilled man is not made in the case of women?"

She urged that this question was viewed with the greatest anxiety by the East London Federation of the suffragettes and by women all over the country, who keenly desired that there should be equal pay for equal work.

This letter was sent on March 15th. Mr. Runciman replied that the matter was under consideration and had been referred to Mr. Lloyd George.

On March 26th Lloyd George replied as follows:—

Dear Miss Pankhurst,—The words which you quote would guarantee that women undertaking the work of men would get the same piece rates as men were receiving before the date of this agreement. That, of course, means that if the women turn out the same quality of work as men employed on the same job, they will receive exactly the same pay.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) D. LLOYD GEORGE.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst replied:— "It is important to know also whether the same time rates are to apply in the case of women as those which were paid to men, because if this were not the case, employers might merely engage women to work on time rates to avoid paying the standard rates."

To this letter no answer was forthcoming.

E.L.F.S. at Board of Trade Conference.

On April 13th Mr. Runciman called a conference of women's organisations at the Board of Trade. The E.L.F.S. was summoned with the rest and appointed Mrs. Drake and Miss Sylvia Pankhurst to represent it.

Mr. Runciman asked women to aid in the special war service register for women, and in regard to the question of equal pay said:—

"In regard to Government contracts, it had been decided that the same piece-work rates should be paid to women as to men. In regard to time rates, no special conditions had been laid down. The general safeguard against women being used to displace men was that employers were being asked to take back those of their men who had served in the Army."

Mrs. Drake was the first to reply to Mr. Runciman. She urged that there should be equal pay on piece rates as well as time rates, and that women should be admitted to men's trade unions.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst followed up this demand, pointing out that if matters were left as they were, employers would simply resort to employing women on time rates only to evade paying the standard rate. She urged that women doing the work of skilled men should receive the skilled man's pay, and that in every form of Government work, whether usually performed by women or by men, it should be a rule that no woman, however unskilled, should be employed at less than the standard rate for the district of an unskilled man.

Mr. Runciman had spoken of training schemes for women workers. Miss Pankhurst urged that in connection with these maintainances to the value of not less than £1 a week, should be provided, that representatives of the women workers concerned should be appointed to all advisory committees and arbitration courts. She then pointed out that women needed the protection of the franchise, though Mr. Runciman interrupted and said, that he would not have that question raised.

At the close of the Conference Mrs. Drake asked, "Will the Government stop the sweating of women?"

There was no reply.

Women's Exhibition in Caxton Hall.

On May 15th, the E.L.F.S. held a three day's exhibition in the Caxton Hall, which was opened by Olive Schreiner. All the Suffrage Societies were invited to take stalls for the display of their literature, and to send speakers to the meetings, which were held each afternoon and evening.

The International Suffrage Shop exhibited charts showing the progress of the woman's movement all over the world. The Actresses Franchise League, Miss Helsby, Miss Clarke and Miss Cox, organised concerts.

The Women's Joint Food Supply Committee showed in actual commodities the rise in the cost of living since the War and in the years preceding the War, which has placed such a heavy burden on the housewife.

The E.L.F.S. toys were displayed, both finished and in process of making.

The most important feature of the Exhibition was the sweated industries section, in connection with which women workers from East London were making soldiers' and sailors' clothes. One woman was "finishing" soldiers' trousers for 2d. and 2½d. a pair, having to find her own soap, needles, cotton and thread. Other women were finishing soldiers' overcoats for 4d., 5d. and 6d. a coat, finding their own needles, cotton and thread. Another was machining soldiers' trousers for 3s. 9d. a dozen. Another was paid 2½d. for stitching 60 buttons on bandoliers.

Members of the House of Commons, and the House of Lords were specially invited to see this part of the Exhibition, and a few of them came.

Women's May Day.

On Sunday May 30th, the E.L.F.S. held its Third Annual Woman's May Day in Victoria Park. A procession with banners and spring flowers marched from Canning Town, through Poplar, and a very large gathering unanimously carried a resolution, sending greetings to women striving for political and economic freedom in all other lands; and declaring that, "our first most permanent and most urgent duty is to the great struggle for human development and freedom that continues through all time." The resolution also demanded a vote for every adult woman, and equal pay for men and women.

The National Register and Munitions Act.

At the end of June the Munitions Bill and the National Register Bill were introduced.

The E.L.F.S. recognised in the Register Bill the thin end of the conscriptionist wedge, containing both industrial and military compulsion.

On this ground the Federation opposed the Bill, and a number of our members refused to fill up the Register when it was finally established by law. No member of the E.L.F.S. has been prosecuted for failing to register, though several other persons have been fined or imprisoned in several parts of the country.

Those of our members who decided to sign the register agreed to add the following statement, in addition to any personal protest that they might add:—

I do not think it right to do Government work unless I have a guarantee I shall be paid the standard rate of wages hitherto paid for the kind of work that I am asked to undertake, with the addition of any War bonus or increase in wages that may be granted owing to the War, and that if the work is unskilled, and the wages hitherto paid for it have been low, I shall not be engaged to do it at a lower wage than 7d. an hour. I consider that women's labour should be safeguarded by the possession of the Parliamentary Vote.

Provided also that I am to be employed directly by the Government, and not by a contractor or sub-contractor.

In the Munitions Act the E.L.F.S. saw a most dangerous coercive measure, and we opposed it most strenuously, both on that ground, and because it did not secure that women should receive either a living wage, or the same pay as the men

whom they might replace. Mr. T. Wilson moved an amendment which secured that men who might take the places of workmen of higher skill should receive the same pay by time or piece; but Mr. Jowett's amendment to substitute "persons" for "men," in order to make the clause of use to women, was withdrawn on an appeal by Mr. Arthur Henderson.

On learning that Mr. Lloyd George was arranging to receive a deputation of women who were working to secure both military and industrial conscription, and who appeared ready to offer themselves, or other women for War Service without demanding any safeguards against exploitation, our Hon. Sec. wrote to Mr. Lloyd George as follows:

Sir,—You have agreed to receive a deputation urging compulsory service, without regard to the conditions upon which that service is to be exacted.

I write on behalf of the East London Federation of the Suffragettes, a body of working women who have gained experience of life in a hard school, to ask that you will receive a deputation of our members who would urge upon you:—

(1) That the Munitions Act, which has been hastily passed through before the people of the country have been able to realise its provisions, contains no pledge that women who are engaged to do the war work hitherto done by men shall receive the wages hitherto paid to men. Clause 5 in the second Schedule, which deals with the question of women's labour, you have construed to mean that if women are paid on piece-work rates, they shall receive the piece rates hitherto paid to men. But the Clause is valueless, because it does not insist that women, even after they have become skilled, shall be paid on piece rates. Employers therefore prefer to pay women on time rates, in the case of which no provision against sweating has been laid down.

This matter causes our members the gravest consternation and alarm, both as wage earners on their own account, and also as wives who have to lay out the wages of workmen.

(2) We would also urge that the Munitions Act does not bear out the promise made that armament manufacturers should not make increased war profits; and that the Committee appointed to deal with this question is not of a sufficiently representative character to protect the interests, either of the workers in the trades concerned, or of the general public.

(3) That the safeguards against undue exploitation of the workers, and especially of the working women, by private employers, which are contained in the Munitions Act, are wholly inadequate to justify the degree of coercion which may already be applied to the workers under the Munitions Act and the National Register Act, to say nothing of a more general and extended form of compulsory service.

Our members ask that you will receive them at 10 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, July 20th, as they are arranging to march from East London to see you on that night.

Faithfully yours,

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Procession to Parliament, July 20th.

On the night of July 20th, a big procession of working women marched from Old Ford Road, Bow, and East India Dock Gates, Poplar, converging at Gardiner's Corner. We had learnt that Mr. Lloyd George, from whom we had not succeeded in ringing a promise to receive us, had left for Wales to attempt a settlement of the coal strike. But we decided to continue the procession, which proceeded to the Central Hall, Westminster, where a most enthusiastic demonstration was held.

Efforts to Interview Lloyd George.

We continued writing to Mr. Lloyd George urging him to receive our deputation. No satisfactory reply having reached us, we sent a letter by hand on Monday, July 26th, to say that our deputation of nine women would wait on him at 11.30 next day. We remained at the Ministry of Munitions on Tuesday till late in the afternoon waiting, in spite of rude threats to put us out, till something definite could be arranged. At last Mr. Lloyd George's Private Secretary, Mr. Davis, came to tell us that Mr. Lloyd George had promised to see us within the next few days.

This promise was not kept, though it was repeated many times in response to letters and telephone con-

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versations, and we had three more long waits at the Ministry of Munitions before we finally secured an appointment for 11.15. on September 27th. Even then, when we arrived at the Ministry, we found that Mr. Lloyd George had failed again and that Dr. Addison and a number of "experts" were there to receive us in his stead.

The deputation consisted of Mrs. Bouvier, Mrs. Cressall, Mrs. Drake, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and Mrs. Pascoe, of the E.L.F.S.; Mrs. Leigh Rothwell, War Work organiser for the National Federation of Women Workers; and a woman munition maker from Bryant and May's in Bow.

The Deputation showed that:—

At the Igranic Works, Bedford, girls and women were making tubes for submarines at 8s. a week, though boys get 15s. to 20s. a week for this work; at Sparklet's, women were paid 3d. and 3½d. an hour, and only time and one-third for night work; at the Aeroplane Works, Hendon, for machine work on steel plates, women got 3d. an hour, though men got 10d. an hour for the same work; at Nobel's, women employed on shell, bullet and cartridge work got 3½d. an hour; Waring and Gillow's paid women 3½d., men 9d., for military tent work; Vicker's Munition Factory, Sheffield, paid women from 8s. to 14s. a week, with 1s. a week war bonus, though the minimum wage for the man unskilled labourer was £1 6s. 6d.; Strictly Ammunition Works, Walsall, paid women 15s. to 16s. a week for a 734-hour week; Villier's Engineering Works, Wolverhampton, paid girls and women 6s. to 12s. a week; at Croydon, women got 8s. to 12s. 6d. a week.

The deputation also showed that the hours of labour were frequently excessive, often lasting from 7.30 a.m. to 11 p.m., and that the conditions under which the work was carried on were often exceedingly injurious.

Mr. Addison expressed much sympathy and promised that great improvements should be made, but we came away dissatisfied, and events have proved that we were right.

We left with Dr. Addison for Mr. Lloyd George memoranda setting forth our evidence of the present evils and our demands, and though we have kept pegging away at him, we have never received a reply.

Not until October 23rd did Mr. Lloyd George take any step. He announced that the Ministry of Munitions had no power to act, except in Government-owned factories, but that there it would give a minimum wage of £1 a week to women engaged on time-work customarily done by men, unless they were engaged in replacing fully-skilled men, in which case they should get the standard rate.

The E.L.F.S. at once wrote to Mr. Lloyd George repudiating this as a settlement of the question, and asking what proportion of women munition workers could qualify for the £1 a week.

Mr. Lloyd George did not reply. He has since introduced a very unsatisfactory Munitions Act Amendment Bill.

Board of Trade Asks Us to Eat Less Meat.

Early in June the Board of Trade sent the E.L.F.S. a circular calling on the public to eat less meat, and suggesting that we should send copies to our members. We replied that if the Board of Trade would bear the cost we would call a special meeting of our members to discuss the question. This meeting was held on June 21st, and the following reply was sent to the Board of Trade:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the average working woman housekeeper in East London cannot practise further economies, either in regard to meat or other forms of food, without injuring the physique of her family, and thus contributing to the lowering of the general standard of health and vigour of the district, which has always been unfortunately low. We are, moreover, seriously concerned at the privations which the majority of the families in this district are already suffering, and mention, as an illustration of this fact, that the majority of our own members are only able to buy meat for their families once a week.

Meanwhile our relatives and friends inform us of a considerable waste of meat and other foods in the military camps, and we urge that economies should be practised in this direction.

This meeting therefore asks the Board of Trade to receive a deputation from our organisation to put forward the following demands:—

(a) That an advisory committee consisting of one-third merchants, one-third representatives of organised workers, employed in the trades concerned, and one-third representatives of working women housekeepers as the principal consumers of the nation, shall be appointed to formulate and carry out proposals for safeguarding the supplies and limiting the prices of food and milk. This committee to have power to fix both prices and profits.

(b) That the coal supply shall be placed under national control, under the supervision of a committee composed one-third of experts who have had administrative experience in the trade, one-third representatives of organised workers in the trades concerned, one-third working women housekeepers. The committee to have power to fix prices and profits.

(c) In view of the alarming increase in infant mortality, and the decreasing birth rate, coupled with the rising price of milk, that municipal depots shall be established in all districts.

Demonstration on Registration Sunday.

In July the E.L.F.S. took the initiative in forming a joint demonstration committee to organise a demonstration on August 15th, the day on which the National Register began to be taken, to protest against sweating and industrial compulsion; to demand equal pay for men and women; the enfranchisement of all women; Government action to keep down the cost of living; and also to oppose attempts to tax wages and the necessities of life; and to call on the Government, as an alternative, to take control of the great landed and capitalist monopolies and the natural resources of the country.

A conference to make arrangements for the demonstration was held in Chandos Hall, and the following organisations co-operated:—

United Suffragists, Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, Women Writers' Suffrage League, Suffragette Crusaders, Herald League, B.S.P., Dockers' Union and some branches of the I.L.P., Amalgamated Tool-makers, Engineers and Machinists, Electrical Trade Union, National Union of Railwaymen.

It was arranged that processions should march from East and South-east London, and that the meeting should be held in the Queen's Hall. The Queen's Hall authorities, however, cancelled the letting of the hall and the meeting was finally held in the Portman Rooms.

A deputation of 13 persons, representing the societies co-operating was elected by the meeting to wait on the Chancellor of the Exchequer in regard to the forthcoming Budget.

Mr. McKenna refused to see the deputation, but eventually received Mrs. Drake, Miss Pankhurst, and Mr. Lansbury.

Trafalgar Square Demonstration, September 26th.

On September 26th the Demonstration Committee which had convened the Portman Rooms meeting held a great meeting in Trafalgar Square on similar lines, the E.L.F.S. again doing the chief organising work. A gloom was cast over the meeting by the news of Keir Hardie's death.

Keir Hardie Memorial Meeting.

The E.L.F.S. held a memorial meeting in honour of the great labour pioneer and friend of women, in Canning Town Public Hall, on October 17th.

Rent Strikes.

Soon after the outbreak of war some landlords had begun raising the rents of working-class dwellings. This had been most common in Glasgow. But immediately after the introduction of the September Budget the practice was extensively resorted to all over the country, including East London.

Grosvenor Buildings, Poplar, comprise dwellings for 516 families who were given notice that their rents would be raised by 3d. a week. The E.L.F.S. canvassed the tenants and held meetings for them, urging them to refuse to pay the increase. The following resolution was carried and largely signed by the tenants:—

"That this meeting of soldiers' wives and other working women housewives, protests against the raising of the rents of working-class dwellings, which in reality is a device to force the working classes to pay the extra income tax and other expenses of landlords arising out of the War; and recognising that the working-classes already pay a heavier share of war taxes as consumers of tea, sugar, and other commodities than their incomes

warrant, this meeting calls upon the Government to take immediate action to prevent the raising of rents during the War. In view of the shortage of working-class dwellings in certain districts, this meeting further calls upon the Government to start building houses for the workers without delay."

Eventually the landlord withdrew the increase, the same thing happened in several other cases in our district. Finally the Rent Act was carried.

International Work.

In March, the women of Holland announced that they would undertake to organise an International Congress of Women at the Hague in April to protest against War, and to discuss international arbitration, the building up of a permanent peace, and women's claim to a voice in the peace settlement. The E.L.F.S. decided to send delegates to this congress and Mrs. Drake, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and Miss Smyth were to have gone, but Mr. McKenna refused to allow the English contingent to cross to Holland.

The E.L.F.S. sent the following resolutions, which were not touched by the preliminary agenda sent out from Holland.

(1) That the International Congress of Women calls for the abolition of all secret treaties and alliances, and ententes between groups of nations, and urges all the nations to unite in entering into a permanent peace treaty.

(2) That a Committee be appointed by the International Congress of Women to prepare a scheme for the democratisation of the International Court of Arbitration and for the extension of its scope and power to enforce its decisions.

To consider:—

(a) Proposals to secure a fair representation for the men and women of each nation.

(b) Proposal for International action by the Court on such subjects as White Slavery, sweating, the importation of sweated goods, lead poisoning, etc.

(c) Proposals for enforcing the decrees of the Court, either by an International Police Force, International boycott or treaty obligations, and for limiting or abolishing national armies and navies, in order to secure that international forces shall have paramount power.

The Congress eventually discussed and adopted resolutions on these and many other points, but we still think that further details should be worked out.

In preparation for the first Council Meeting of the British Section of the Women's International Committee for Permanent Peace, which is called the Women's International League, on September 30th, and October 1st, the E.L.F.S. organised a small group of East London subscribers to represent it. The East London group introduced various useful amendments to the constitution. Our Hon. Sec. was elected to the committee of the W.I.L., and at a general meeting of the E.L.F.S. it was decided to form an East London branch of the W.I.L. This branch holds public meetings every fourth Sunday evening at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow.

The E.L.F.S. has done what it can to realise the international solidarity of women in its own district by studying and holding meetings on international questions, and by rendering all the help that it was able, to the women who were injured by the anti-German riots, by helping the wives of interned aliens to get the allowances due to them, and by rendering assistance to Belgians and other foreigners, both of allied and hostile countries, as occasion has arisen.

The Franchise.

The E.L.F.S. is intensely impatient of the delay in securing Votes for Women, and every opportunity for bringing the question into the Parliamentary arena is anxiously watched. The franchise question is looming very near, although it is supposed to be barred out by the political truce into which Parliamentary parties pretend to have entered. Last year the Electoral Disabilities (Naval and Military Service) Removal Act was passed, in order that men at the front might not lose their votes through being abroad during the qualifying period.

Many Members of Parliament and others have suggested that active service in the Army or Navy should be made in itself a qualification for

the Vote. On November 4th, Lord Willoughby de Broke moved the second reading of a Service Franchise Bill to give soldiers and sailors, absent on service, the right to vote by post during the war and for one year afterwards; and to give votes to all soldiers and sailors without the need of other qualification.

This Bill was withdrawn on a promise by Lord Lansdowne that the Government would make a statement on the franchise question.

The Press was now full of forecasts in regard to the contents of the Government's proposed Parliament and Registration Bill. The *Manchester Guardian* going so far as to say that it would embody the principle of "one man one vote."

The E.L.F.S. wrote to Lord Lansdowne and the Press, stating that as soon as there was any question of altering the franchise or any question of voting in Parliamentary elections, the votes for women movement would have to be reckoned with.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst also wrote to the Prime Minister, on behalf of the E.L.F.S., to remind him that, in reply to the East London deputation, which asked for a vote for every woman over 21, on July 20th, 1914, he had promised to give the case presented to him "most careful and mature consideration," and that he had stated that when the franchise should be given to women, it must be given by means of a measure that should be "thorough-going and democratic in its basis." She added:—

"We agree with you that every man should be enfranchised; we ask that every woman should be enfranchised too."

The E.L.F.S. also signed a joint letter, with other Suffrage Societies, to the Prime Minister, on this question. In reply, Mr. Asquith stated that no change in the franchise qualification would be made by the Government Franchise and Registration Bill, and as a matter of fact the principal effect of the measure is merely to prolong the life of this Parliament by eight months.

"The Women's Dreadnought."

The circulation of the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT has increased very greatly during the past year. A large number of East London newspapers now stock the paper and display posters, and the paper is also stocked by a number of newsagents all over London. There is also a certain sale for the paper in many English provincial towns, as well as in Scotland, Wales and Ireland. The postal circulation from the central office has grown, and the street sales by Branches and individual members have gone up. The Bow Branch holds the record, its sales rarely falling to 800 a week, and having once reached 1,600. Various enlarged numbers of the paper containing special supplements have been published during the last four months, including amongst others a special League of Rights Supplement, deputation to the Ministry of Munitions Supplement, two Keir Hardie Memorial numbers, and the Christmas treble number.

Mother and Baby Clinics and Day Nursery.

The work of our four Mother and Infant Clinics, in Bow, Bromley, Poplar and South West Ham, has developed and extended. In February larger premises were taken for the South West Ham Clinic and Federation Offices, at 55, Fife Road, Tidal Basin.

In April, "The Mother's Arms," an ex-public house, was opened at 438, Old Ford Road, Bow, to accommodate our Bow Clinic, which had been held at 400, Old Ford Road, and the day nursery which occupied two rooms at the factory, 45 Norman Road. This has added to our expenses, but has greatly enhanced the value, both of the clinic and day nursery, especially as we have been able to set apart a room for the treatment of invalid babies.

We have added to our nursing and other staff, but we regret to have lost the valued daily help of Mrs. McCheyne at Bromley, and for a

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time also that of Mrs. Mantle, who, we are glad to know, will now be able to return to us. In the Nursery the teaching of organised play has been introduced for the older babies.

Cost Price Restaurants.

The cost price restaurants in Bow and Poplar have continued doing good work, and our customers have greatly increased in numbers, especially in Poplar.

Toy Factory.

We had stalls at the Toy Fairs at the Horticultural Hall in February and May, and saw by comparison with others that our toys were well above the average manufactured in this country. Nevertheless, the factory continued to make so heavy a drain on our resources that in June we resolved to close it in a few weeks' time. Our staff, however, persuaded us to persevere, and we are glad to report that during the last three months the factory has covered expenses, and we hope soon to be making profits which will be shared amongst the workers, as the factory is run on co-operative lines. Nevertheless, we have still a heavy debt to our Financial Secretary, incurred during the earlier months, which will take some time to discharge.

Baby Saving Crusade.

Our Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky, has not only helped to raise money for the East End nursery and clinics, but has led a baby saving crusade throughout the country, and has organised also a small babies' house in Wealdstone.

The E.L.F.S. tenders its very grateful thanks to all the good friends who have helped us hitherto, and earnestly asks that they will continue to give us all the personal service and financial aid that they possibly can, for every branch of the work is growing, and the need for each branch is growing faster still.

CONTINENTAL FRIENDS.

We have received the following Christmas greetings from women friends abroad through Jhr. Mr. B. de Jong van Beek en Donk, Secretary of the Dutch Anti-Oorlog Raad, The Hague:—

I am very glad to avail myself of the opportunity given me by the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT to send hearty Christmas greetings to the women of all countries who work, struggle, suffer, and hope for the realisation of their ideal. May this second Christmas, passed in the nightmare of War, strengthen the desire of women, not only to render service where necessary, but to strive indefatigably for political justice.

It is only by establishing real Democracy, in which the citizens of all countries, both men and women, are included, that we can hope to prevent a similar disaster, and establish a lasting peace based on justice and a reverence of right.

EMILIE GOURD,
President of the National Swiss
Association for Woman's Suffrage.

Sisterly Christmas greetings from:—

Frau Vilma Glücklich.
„ Serafine Harsányi.
„ Klótilde Markos.
„ Ilona Sebestyén.
„ Alexander Szegvári.
„ Ilona Vikár.
„ Irma Zemplényi.
„ Anna Zipernowsky.

Budapest, December, 1915.

According to the Basle *Nachrichten*, nine prominent Stuttgart and Karlsruhe Socialists, including three women, have been arrested on charges of high treason.

The trial is fixed for the middle of January at Leipzig.

The Socialist Party in the Reichstag has split up into two divisions. Twenty of them voted against the new war credits.

The *Times* reports that at a private meeting of the Socialist Party, 46 members wished to vote against the war credits and 66 for them, also that Haase, the President of the Socialist Party in the Reichstag, has resigned his office and voted against the war credits.

Socialists in this country who applaud the efforts towards peace, which German Socialists are making, should have the courage to make similar efforts here.

THE TURNIP TOP.

A STORY: BY CONSTANCE SMEDLEY ARMFIELD.

The sunlight filtered through the blind-slats and the occupant of the ground-floor sitting room moved her head, trying to escape the rays. She was a youngish woman in clothes of country cut. Her thick shoes, carelessly-brushed hair, and lounging way of sitting gave evidence of solitary, independent habits. She was refined and nervous-looking, though her skin was tanned to wholesome brown; if it had not been for the hardness in her eyes and mouth, she would have been beautiful. Brow and eyes were open, even unusually honest in their expression, and her features were not mean, but generous in their modeling. Some trouble had evidently seared a fine nature, and driven her into herself. She was dulled, careless, self-engrossed, as if she had brooded too much.

The gaudily-covered magazine she was reading obviously did not hold her attention. Her eyes strayed over the pages listlessly, and now and then remained fixed for minutes on one spot, staring aimlessly.

It was too hot to read, and she never could keep her mind on a book. Besides, to-day her thoughts were perpetually harking forward.

In two hours more he should be here.

He was her husband, but it would be like meeting a stranger. She had known a dignified man, yes, dignified even though he was not very old. He came of Calvinistic stock, and inherited the gravity and self-respect of his Covenantant forbears. He kept everyone aloof: even she had always been uncomfortably conscious of his dignity. One always felt one had to live up to it. The thought of Henry in prison was even now an impossible anomaly. She couldn't imagine him obeying orders.

Besides, his whole appearance depended on his dignity. She remembered him in the dock, separated from her and all their friends as inexorably as if he had been in his coffin. His straight, fine features, steel-gray eyes, and fair hair had stood out like a cameo from the surrounding dinginess.

But that was five years ago. Now she was facing the near future when life would have to be taken up again. A dull fear eclipsed all feelings about his return; wherever he went, there would always be the risk of some one finding out. And one couldn't explain to people he had not meant to do wrong.

His own property was locked up in what he thought were safe securities; he had used certain moneys of his clients for his private expenditure instead of selling his own shares at a depreciation. He had never dreamed of not repaying.

And then the crash had come: a financial panic: his shares at zero: and calls he could not meet.

It had come without warning; he had not been looking well for some time; but she had attributed his pallor to the London season. They were out a great deal. She had not seen him that last morning; he had left as usual at nine, and been arrested at his office.

She turned shuddering from the recollection of the days that followed: the sale: the trial.

She had a little money of her own, enough to take her away, right away into the heart of Devon where no one knew. They had both been fond of gardening, and she made it her hobby at first, and gradually it had become a business. She grew mushrooms and violets for market, and was doing well. Gradually she had become used to the loneliness, and a life of purpose and interest had been established; one strikes roots anywhere in time. Her cottage had been dear to her at first as a shelter; now it was the centre of many interests and activities. She would not admit she feared the disturbance his coming would create. She told herself it was for his sake she had determined he must be sent off to Canada at once—alone.

The heat was oppressive. She got up, struggling against the feeling of inertia. The tiny lodging-house apartment provided nothing of interest, however. As she stood by the mantelpiece, a small dish caught her eye among the unpretentious ornaments. It appeared to hold a doll's fern, but, looking, she perceived a live plant was growing from a brown disk set in water. The quaint little thing amused her for a second; it brought back the recollection of a Japanese tree her husband had given her when they were first married. Her eyes grew moist at the remembrance.

She could not stay longer in the heat-filled room; her bedroom was at the back of the house, and she picked up her book to go upstairs. The dusty streets made no appeal.

As she passed through the hall she saw a door was open at the back, through which came a glimpse of sky. Investigating, she discovered and descended a flight of steps which led down into a grimy area, surrounded by brick walls, whereon the London soot had settled heavily.

Presently she heard a sharp yapping below, and perceived a tiny dog had run out from the basement, and was standing barking at her. He was quickly followed by a little girl, who picked him up, addressing soothing words to him. She was accompanied by an enormous Persian cat, well-brushed and plump, and the woman glanced down at them with a hard look. She had to be thankful they had had no children.

She returned to her magazine again until a suppressed laugh rippled out, and, looking down, she saw the child had dressed the dog in a doll's bonnet, and had placed him in her doll's perambulator, where he lay at ease.

She smiled in spite of herself at the queer sight, and then beheld a row of little plants similar to the one she had noticed on the mantelpiece. The child had arranged them on a ledge, and had evidently been watering them. She called down to the child, and asked what they were.

It turned out they were merely the discarded "tops" of the roots "mother" used for cooking. The one in the sitting room was a turnip top. She "grew" them in her doll's tea-service.

The child was glad to show her treasures, and soon volunteered the news that she had white mice, and ran into the basement where she lived, appearing with a glass box in which three mice were flourishing amidst the joys of Indian corn.

Some corn wrapped in a moist blanket was produced, germination being joyfully anticipated.

While she showed her things, the child's talk ran on gaily; she had been taken to the Park that afternoon, and the swans had eaten from her hand. She had been painting all the morning; she had been ill, and her Sunday-school teacher had written her such a lovely letter. She was going back next week.

The dingy area which formed the child's home was no prison to her, but a playground full of infinite possibilities. She exhaled an atmosphere of growth and life, and around her animals frolicked, and the refuse of the ash-barrel put forth dainty leaves and fronds, and was cherished as tenderly as priceless flowers. The dusty streets which had kept the woman prisoner had been an enchanted highway leading to a place of flowers and birds and beasts—more friends. Dogs, cats, mice, and swans shared and cheered her quarantine.

The little dog moved suddenly and tried to get out of his coverings, and the child flew to his rescue; peals of laughter mingled with the dog's yappings, and the yard was the scene of a boisterous scene.

If such happiness could flower in such surroundings, was there any possible limit to what might be—for anyone—in all conditions?

What was that verse? "The wilderness shall blossom like the rose." Could the desert of his future

blossom too, beginning with his home-coming? There was new light in the woman's eyes, a faint hope, though somewhat clouded still.

She wondered why she had not brought flowers from the abundance of her garden. He loved the old-fashioned garden flowers. But she had not been thinking of what he loved—only of what she feared.

She had suggested the meeting in London,—she had not wanted him to invade her country home. She had come up, to arrange a separation in deed if not in name; she had not thought of his desires at all—consigning him to some place far out of England where he could make a new start—and she would not be disgraced.

She hurried through the streets until she found a florist's; there she bought extravagantly, and returned with her arms full, and rang for vases, arranging them with speedy fingers. So soon he would be here.

For the first time she was trying to realise what liberty would mean to him. The sky, the fresh air on his forehead, the power to do and go as he pleased, the welcoming flowers, her love. Where she had seen dark clouds, she saw the sunshine of infinity. The past had gone, slipped utterly away with the last fleeting minute. All that they could live was the future. By their own volition only could it be shadowed by memory of the past.

If they put it right away from them, why not begin life from the very moment when they met—go back at once to the cottage, tucked away among the hills and streams, with the sea booming a perpetual reminder of its wide expanse? Ah, there is where she should have welcomed him! There in the healing silence of the trees and flowers and fields.

Her eye fell on the turnip top in the doll's sugar basin, and with strange tenderness she pulled it forth and set it in a cleared space.

As she did so, the bell rang, and she stood transfixed. Would he be altered? Would prison have stamped something terrible upon him? What was he feeling?

Anguish unspeakable rushed on her. In that minute she saw the selfishness which she had shown to him. Before the crash she had spent money, insistently, on the luxuries she called "necessities." She it was who had insisted on moving in to town from Marlow; who had filled the flat with all the latest "bibelots"; who had cultivated smart amusing people. The last years they scarcely ever had a moment to themselves. She had developed "nerves" in the incessant rush, and talked much to everyone about her delicacy. That was why he had striven to keep everything from her knowledge, plunging recklessly at the end in the endeavour to supply her "needs."

And after the trial and the sentence, she had still thought only of herself—had shut him out of her consciousness as much as possible, had not been to see him, had hugged her selfish seclusion, concentrating all her thoughts on her business, her gardening interests. Even to-day, when she had come up to meet him, she had not troubled to look nice; she was in her old garden things, untidy, careless—she who had used to dress so well, and whom he had admired so heartwholly.

It was as if she stood before God's mirror, and saw a distorted monster in place of the martyr, the courageous sufferer she had thought herself. In that one moment, as drowning men see all their lives in one great flash, so she, too, saw.

And seeing, was astonished; and astonished, turned in horror, melted, humble, whole.

"Mr. Southfields," said the servant at the door, and Henry came in.

Could Henry's hair be gray? That wonderful lustrous corn-colour have lost its hues, and turned to ashen brown streaked with silver?

(Continued on back page, col. 3.)

EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

OBJECTS: To secure the Parliamentary Vote for every Woman over 21, and to promote the Social and Industrial Welfare of Women.
Entrance Fee 1d. Subscription 1d. a Month

BRANCH REPORTS.

BOW.

400 OLD FORD ROAD.
Secretary: MISS LYNCH.

All those members who helped to make the Christmas Dinner a success are thanked very much. We hope that they and others will volunteer to sell *Dreadnoughts*, collect, and help in other ways at the New Year's Party on Jan. 8th. The indoor meetings are improving; the next will be on Tuesday, Jan. 4th; Mrs. Bouvier will be the speaker. All members are asked to attend, so that a great deal of work can be arranged for 1916! Several members have promised to canvass and sell *Dreadnoughts* regularly. Who else can promise to do a little each week? Even half an hour regularly given will be of great service to the movement. Mrs. Eglinton made five new members at the Christmas Dinner.

Member's subscriptions £1 8s. 6d.
Dreadnought sales held over till next week.

HACKNEY.

Offices: 175 DALSTON LANE
(Facing Hackney Downs Station).
Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.

We have decided to hold a Social and Dance on Thursday, Jan. 20th; members are asked to do all they can to make this a success.

Our afternoon meeting has been changed to Monday. We hope that this day will be more convenient than Tuesday, and that we shall have a really good meeting on Monday, Jan. 3rd.

Members are reminded of New Year's Party at Bow Baths, on Jan. 8th. All should come and bring friends. Tickets are on sale, price 3d.

Mrs. Peeriotti and Miss Peeriotti are thanked for helping with the Christmas Dinner Party. Mrs. White is thanked for keeping a Pillar Box and collecting for the Milk Fund. Last time she collected 3s. 7d. in a few weeks. Will any other member do the same?

Dreadnought sales—113. Miss Beamish 79, Miss Sands 32.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

The E.L.F.S. Bow Monthly Social took the form of a Christmas Dinner, at Bow Baths, on Saturday, December 18th.

Over 400 guests were present, and great credit is due to the splendid organisation of the caterers.

Music, dancing, singing, recitation, and toasts, helped to pass a very pleasant evening.

A Babies' Tea Party was held at the "Mother's Arms" for the Nursery Children. The nurses spared no trouble in making the little mites happy, by providing nice toys, dainties, and a lovely Christmas Tree.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION DEBATE.

The Debate on "International Mediation," which took place at the Women's Hall on Friday, December 17th, was very successful, although the representatives of the different nations were not so well disposed towards peace as one might wish.

The Bulgarian and Dutch delegates were very difficult to bring to terms. The Irish representative refused all peace negotiations which did not include the dismemberment of the great empires. The Turkish delegate made a very powerful and touching appeal for his unhappy country—the scapegoat of Europe. The most reasoned and practical statements came from Russia, Austria and America.

The President of the Debate had a delicate task in reminding delegates that they were not there to express personal views, but to represent nations. Eventually terms of peace were decided upon by the neutrals, which included disarmament, the release and self-government of conquered territories, freedom of the seas, and Woman Suffrage.

A representative of the Women's International League, of which organisation many members were present, made a short speech, in which she expressed her appreciation of the E.L.F.S. Debate.—P. LYNCH.

BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

"REBEL WOMEN," by EVELYN SHARP.—A new edition has been issued, with a preface by Elizabeth Robins. This collection of short stories, sketches, arising from the author's experience in the suffrage movement, is published by the United Suffragists, 27 Chancery Lane, and costs 1s.

"WHAT EVERY GIRL SHOULD KNOW," by MARGARET SANGER (author of "How Six Little Children Were Taught the Truth"); Sentinel Printing Co., Box 178, Reading, Pa., U.S.A., price 1s.—This is one of the books for which Margaret Sanger has come into conflict with the American law, which appears to give the police authorities power to prohibit any publication dealing with sex. It is a sensible little book, giving essential facts in simple form, and may be read with profit by any girl or mother.

These books are in the E.L.F.S. Lending Library, and may be borrowed on Monday and Friday evenings for 1d. They may also be ordered from the E.L.F.S.

"CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION: THE RACIAL ASPECT OF WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT," by J. Beanland.—Published by the Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage, Price 1d. and 3d.—An interesting pamphlet, but perhaps a little academic and retrospective for these strenuous days.

TRADE UNION NOTES.

By ALICE MACLENNAN.

An application for advances in wages for both male and female workers employed by the British Insulated and Helsby Cable Co., was submitted by the officials of the Workers Union last October. The matter has been delayed owing to the obstinacy of the firm in refusing to consent to arbitration. The workpeople, however, having passed a resolution at both Helsby and Prescott, where the works are situated, threatening drastic action, the matter went before the Committee on Production on December 22nd, in London. About 3,000 workpeople are affected.

In the early part of 1914, the women workers of Helsby were successful in getting a minimum wage of 11s. per week at the age of 19, for a 48-hour week, which low as it is, represented increases varying from 5s. to 1s. The male workers at the same time obtained a minimum of 21s. for labourers, and 26s. for machinemen, for a 48-hour week. A further advance of 1s. for women and 2s. for men was obtained in February of this year; and the latter are now asking for a further increase of 4s. and the former for 2s.

At Prescott, in September, 1913, a minimum of 22s. 6d. for 53 hours was granted for labourers at 19 years of age, and 28s. for machinemen; and a further advance of 2s. obtained last February, and now together with Helsby members they are asking for 4s. increase. Unfortunately the women-workers at Prescott were not included in former increases, owing to the women not being ripe for organisation. Since then, however, the activities of the Union have met with a response which promises to avert that danger of apathy and false content to which the lowest paid workers are apt to sink in small country places. This time the women's demands go in along with the men's.

Following on a satisfactory agreement of equal pay for equal work for female workers of the Oldham Equitable Co-operative Society, the threatened strike of the employees of Eccles Co-operative Society was averted at the eleventh hour by the concession of the demands of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees. It was agreed that immediate payment of the men's rates be made to experienced women, and to inexperienced women after a probation of three months. Other clauses deal with conditions and hours of labour and due observance of public health law in regard to substituted labour.

Strike notices have been tendered by the employees at Carlyle Co-operative Society to enforce similar demands.

MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

A Conference held recently in Manchester discussed the wages of women war workers, and the effect of underpay on men's wages after the war. Representatives were present of 12 trades' and labour councils, 11 women's co-operative organisations, 9 women's labour unions, 29 trade union branches, 4 I.L.P. branches, the Lancashire Divisional Council of the I.L.P., the Rochdale Labour Party, the District Council of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees, 4 Suffragist societies, and 5 other women's organisations.

£1 a week minimum for women over 18 years of age was agreed on as a modest demand, which should in no case be allowed to be regarded as a regular uniform rate for all women, whatever job they undertook.

Mrs. Annot Robinson stated that in the Manchester munitions area women doing men's work got 11s. for a 53-hour week.

Mr. J. T. Watkins, Assistant Secretary of the Gasworkers' Union, urged it was the men's own interest to raise the women's wages to the men's standard, otherwise, women would drag the men's standard down to theirs.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That owing to the national danger of standardising an inadequate wage, this Conference calls upon the Ministry of Munitions to ensure the payment of £1 a week of 48 hours for all women working on munition and War work in all controlled establishments." Trade Unionists in the North of England are alive to the danger of a low rate being determined in the South of England, such as is fixed for sweated trades under the Trade Boards Act, and thus bringing down the higher standard of living attained to by women in the textile trades who are now working on munitions.

Mr. Wardle asked the President of the Board of Trade whether it is a fact that the Great Central Railway has reduced the wages and status of six girls because they joined a trade union?

Mr. Pretymann replied that the railway company allowed all employees, except those in confidential positions, to join trade unions.

What a lame excuse for restricting the rights of the workers!

THE TURNIP TOP.

(Continued from page 397.)

Could Henry's eyes have lost their crystalline clearness, and be drooping, furtive? Could her husband stand there, just within the door, miserably indecisive, ill at ease with her?

What to say to him? How—how to atone?

As if in answer to some God-sent intuition her fingers touched the turnip top, and she held it out to him, speaking as she would have done in their old sweetheart days.

"Look, Henry! Isn't it sweet? What do you think it is?"

She was laughing.

He sought the tiny object blankly; then his face lightened with instinctive curiosity.

"I don't know."

His voice was the same.

"Look!"

He had to come near to take it.

"Something you've brought up; something you've produced?"

"No; it's a turnip top. The child here grows them. I must take you down to see them."

He was beside her, holding the tiny plant, his eyes fixed on it as if he dared not raise them further.

Then he did.

And then they were together, and the tears were flowing, healing, helping tears.

SOME SUCCESS.

The recent application made by the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, on behalf of some of its women members employed by the Northern Co-operative Company, Limited, in the Oatcake Packing Department, for an advance of 2s. per week, has, after some rather protracted negotiations, been conceded as from week ending December 18th.

The Tranent Co-operative Society, whose whole distributive staff are members of the same organisation, have also been conceded the minimum wage scale.

In both the above Societies, a ballot has been taken of the members, who by a very large majority had decided to withdraw their labour if necessary, to secure the advance applied for.

The following special branches of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, have been opened:—Westminster (Army and Navy Co-operative Stores); Edco (Edmondton Co-operative Society); Maryland (Stratford Co-operative Society); Westco (West London Co-operative Society); Wilco (Willesden Co-operative Society); Royal Arsenal (Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society Woolwich). It is proposed to form a Federation of these branches.

For some time past the staff employed at the wholesale warehouses of Boot's, Cash Chemists, Nottingham, have been joining the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, a large number of the women recently employed having joined within the last few weeks.

At Huddersfield a mass meeting of textile workers ratified an agreement with the employers for the payment of a war bonus of 1s. 6d. a week for women and young persons, and 3s. a week for men.

In the House of Commons, on December 22nd, Mr. Tyson Wilson drew the attention of the Financial Secretary to the War Office to Messrs. Hepburn, Gale and Ross, Ltd., of Long Lane, Bermondsey, contractors for leather goods, who pay skilled workmen from 7d. to 8d. per hour, and women, doing the work of skilled men, get from 3d. to 4d. per hour. The firm refuses to pay extra for overtime worked.

Mr. Forster stated other complaints as to the wages paid by this firm had been received, and that investigations were being made.

THE PITY OF IT!

The Danish Socialist leader, Stanning, was refused a passport to travel in this country, because it was thought that he would agitate for peace.

SUNDAY MEETING, JAN. 9th, POPLAR WOMEN'S HALL, 20 Railway St., 7.30 p.m.

Speakers: Miss J. Brackenbury, Miss S. Pankhurst. : : Chair: Mrs. Drake. : : Admission Free.

CAT AND MOUSE ACT.

Mr. Sheehy Skeffington has returned from his lecture tour in the United States, where he spoke on Suffrage, Peace, and Ireland.

Government representatives in Ireland threatened to put the Cat and Mouse Act in force on his return, but so far the only inconvenience he suffered was some hours delay at Liverpool, where the Military authorities ransacked his luggage.

A reader writes:—"I enclose 5s. for the *DREADNOUGHT*. It is a splendid paper. It is not only in Bow that you are doing such a splendid work. It is the fact that the Suffrage outlook and the women's point of view is being kept to the front by the *DREADNOUGHT* for which we must all be grateful to you in these degenerate days. I only wish I could help you materially in proportion to my admiration.—yours sincerely, K.R."

A Naval Officer writes: Dear Madam,—Enclosed please find Postal Order for 5s. being a small subscription to your Society which is doing such a fine work in the protection of child life. There is no better work to be done by the women of the nation than saving the dear little children, a work which is so necessary to the well-being of future England. I sincerely hope that your work will be a great success. My regret is that I am unable to make a larger donation. May God bless the little ones under the care of your Society.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—Messrs. Lawes 1.10.0, Miss M. R. Mackenzie 1.10.0, Collection at Debate 15.6, Miss Somers (*DREADNOUGHT* fund) 10.0, J. H. Atkinson, Esq. 10.0, Mrs. Garner 10.0, Collected at Dinner 6.10, Miss L. Cutten (monthly) 5.0, Miss E. M. Morgan (monthly) 5.0, Fortune telling at Canning Town Social 5.0, Sale of flowers at Dinner 4.9, Miss Joan Cheney collected 4.0, Poplar collection 3.8, Miss E. Barr 2.6, Mr. & Mrs. H. F. W. Reynolds 2.6, Miss Leah Glanfield (*DREADNOUGHT* fund) 2.0, Collection Members' meeting 1.8, Poplar collected 1.0, Mrs. Pascoe (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Ferns (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Thomas (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Dodge (monthly) 1.0, Collection Hackney 0.4.

FOR MILK & GENERAL DISTRESS.—From America per Lady Sybil Smith 100.0.0, West Rand Consolidated Mines War Sewing Club 20.0.0, Money Order Dept. G.P.O., per Miss Rendle 5.5.0, Miss G. L. Smyth 5.0.0, Miss C. Wedgwood 3.0.0, Mr. & Mrs. Sadd Brown 3.0.0, Mrs. Boswell 2.2.0, Miss E. P. Mosses 2.0.0, per the Misses Gibson 2.0.0, Five Xmas presents 1.5.0, Misses Smith (10.0 monthly) 1.10.0, Canning Town Social 1.2.0, Miss G. English 1.1.0, Mrs. Webster 1.0.0, Miss C. Gregory 1.0.0, Birmingham Women Telegraphists 1.0.0, Miss Gulland 1.0.0, Mrs. Boswell 12.11, Miss E. M. Morgan 12.10, Mrs. Bell 10.0, Miss A. M. Buchan 10.0, G.B.N., 10.0, Mrs. Richmond (5.0 weekly) 10.0, Miss A. Somers 10.0, Miss Milne 10.0, Miss F. M. Thomas 10.0, Mrs. Durrant (monthly) 10.0, Mrs. Douglas Hamilton 10.0, Mrs. Godwin 10.0, The Misses James 10.0, Mrs. Usherwood 8.0, Mrs. & Miss Canning & Miss Douglas in memory of F.M.C. 7.6, per Mrs. Hope Merrick 7.0, Miss E. Craib (3.6 monthly) 7.0, Miss I. Jones (2.0 weekly) 6.0, Misses Sanderson & Bellamy (monthly) 5.0, Mrs. E. M. Morrison 5.0, F. W. Thornington, Esq. 5.0, Mrs. Heywood Bright (monthly) 5.0, Mrs. Skeen 5.0, Miss Boyce-Barrow 5.0, Miss A. Goodall 5.0, per Mrs. Hope Merrick 5.0, J.P.S. 5.0, Mr. George Kingston 5.0, Mrs. Colin Burton 5.0, Miss E. Scabrook 5.0, Mr. & Mrs. Darley 5.0, Mr. Stiebel 4.0, West Adams 4.0, Mr. W. Hampton 3.6, Miss Barry 3.6, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.6, per Mr. Darley 2.6, Mr. Athorn per G. Belt, Esq. 2.6, Miss Bullock 2.0, Miss Pittendreich 2.0, Miss H. Colebrook 2.0, Miss M. Osmond (weekly) 2.0, Mrs. Gifford 1.11, A. Gaubert, Esq. 2.0, Miss Mildred Hay 2.0, Miss M. Steede 1.6, Poplar Branch Postman's Federation 1.3, Miss Balchin 1.0, Anon—Hyde Park 1.0, Miss Grace Vernham 1.0, A.D. 1.0, per Mr. Lansbury 0.6, P. Haslam, Esq. 0.6, Mrs. Payne 0.6.

TOWARDS XMAS PARTIES AND DINNER.—Mrs. Sadd Brown 4.0.0, per Mrs. Schurr 18.4, Mrs. Armes 10.0, Mrs. Brewer 5.0, G.C.B. 5.0, per Mr. Green 4.0, E.L.F.S. Factory Workers 3.1, per Mrs. Sneddon 2.6, Mrs. Desborough 2.6.

COLLECTIONS.—Stocking Dept. L.S.A. 1.16.0, Toolroom, etc. L.S.A. 1.12.1, Bow milk (two weeks) 1.9.6, Bromley milk (three weeks) 1.6.2, Employees of Ross, Ltd. per Mrs. Young 11.0, Mrs. Crabb 8.9, Employees of Comptons, Ltd. 6.9, Miss Frisby 5.4, Bow Restaurant 4.9, Miss Lynch 3.0, Canning Town milk 1.6, Miss Bennett 0.11, Merthyr I.L.P. Branch meeting (*DREADNOUGHT* fund) 9.7.

CLOTHING, ETC.—Miss E. Hogg, Mrs. Boswell, Miss Judson, Mrs. Parsons, Miss Alice L. Gibson, Miss Muriel Cheshire, Miss Frisby, Mrs. & Miss E. Canning and Miss Douglas, Miss E. Lowy, Miss Kerr, Miss Gilsten, Mrs. Boase, Winifred & Granville Gills, Mrs. E. G. Warrick, Mrs. Dewsnap, Miss Rintel, E. Seagrave, Mrs. Powles, Mrs. Terry, Miss A. G. Appleyard, Miss Bullock, L.C.C. Trade School for Girls, Queen's Square, Mrs. Archcliffe Sennett, The Women Worker's Reading Circle of Montreal, Mrs. Crabb, G.B.N., per the N.U.W.S.S.

TOYS.—Miss Maude Kingston, Mrs. Archcliffe Sennett (and crackers), Miss Bullock, POTATOES.—Mrs. Patterson, Mr. Partidge.

GROCERIES.—Hampstead W.S.P.U., CRADLE.—Mr. & Mrs. Parsons, MAIL CART.—Mr. Webster.

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